

Monmouth Rural District Council.



ANNUAL REPORT of the MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH

For the Year Ended

31st December 1969

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1964.

Councillor W. O. Williams, Chairman
" D. R. Price, Vice-Chairman

Area (in acres)	54,858 acres
Estimated mid-year population	6,080
Number of inhabited houses	2,216
Rateable Value	£103,061
Sum represented by a Penny rate	£393.6.8d.

MONMOUTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Shaftesbury House,
Monnow St.,
Monmouth.

To The Chairman and Members of the
Rural District of Monmouth

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you the Annual Report on the Health and Sanitary conditions of your district for the year ended 31st December, 1969.

This year was marked by the untimely death of my predecessor, Dr. E. N. Dowell, who in his capacity as the Medical Officer of Health of your district, gave untiring service to the community. Those of you who remember him for over 21 years will know that he was proud to associate his name with your district and I am sure he will be long remembered.

The health of District continues to be satisfactory.

For the production of this report credit is accorded to the co-operation of Mr. P. Thomas who has given his support to me at all times and has carried out his Public Health duties with great efficiency.

I remain,

Your obedient servant,

M. S. Matharu

STATISTICS

The estimated mid-year population was 6080. This figure compares favourably with the mid-year population of 1964.

Births

<u>Live Births</u>	-	Legitimate	88
		Illegitimate	6

This shows a total of 94 births. This figure compares favourably with the figures of 1964 when the total number of births was 83 for this area.

There were two still births recorded in this year.

Infant Mortality

This year there were three deaths of infants under one year all three were males. This figure compares favourably with the figures of 1951 when there were five deaths but is not as good as the figures of 1964.

Deaths

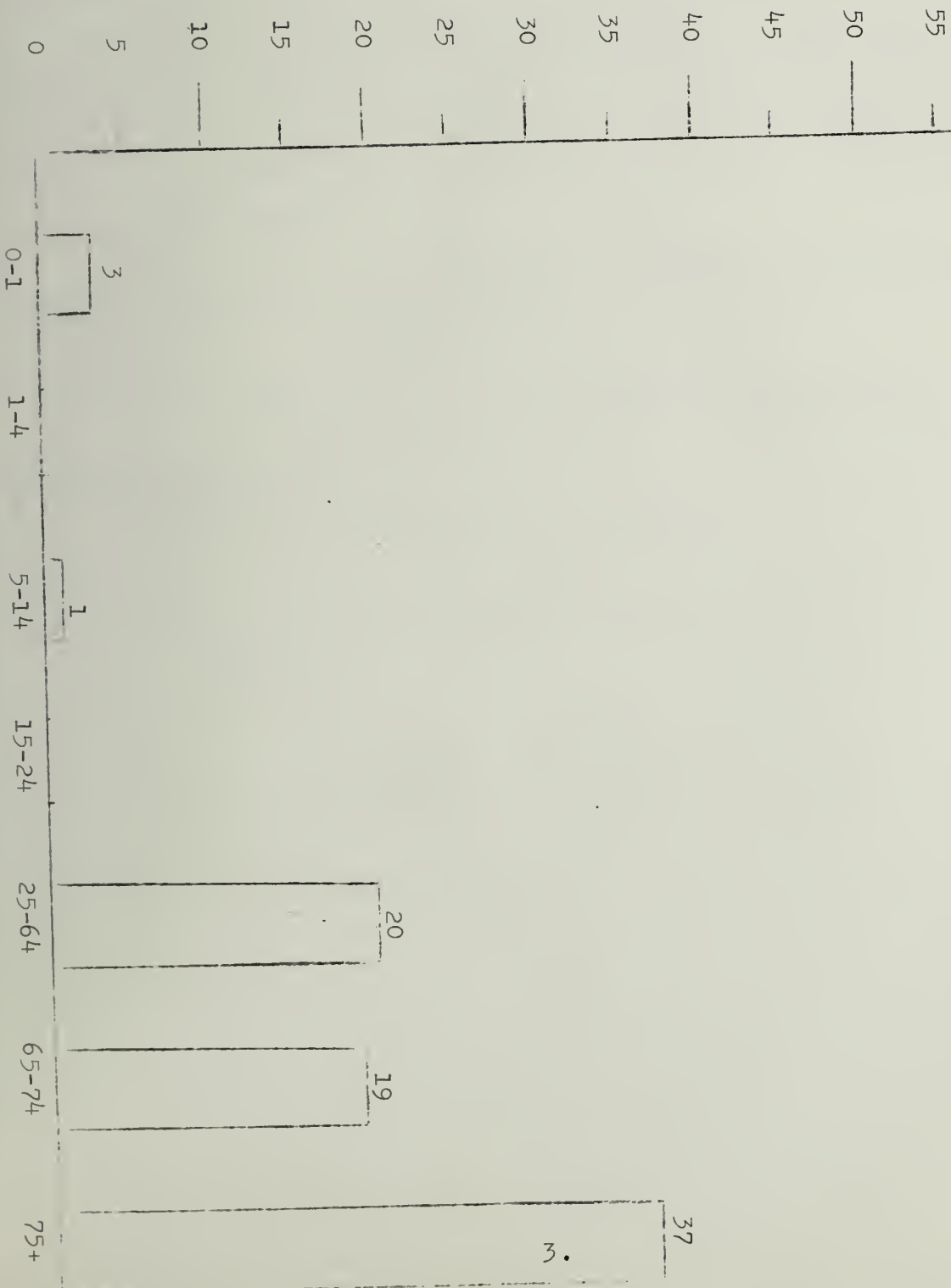
<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>	<u>Total</u>
41	37	80

The following graph shows the distribution of deaths at various age groups.

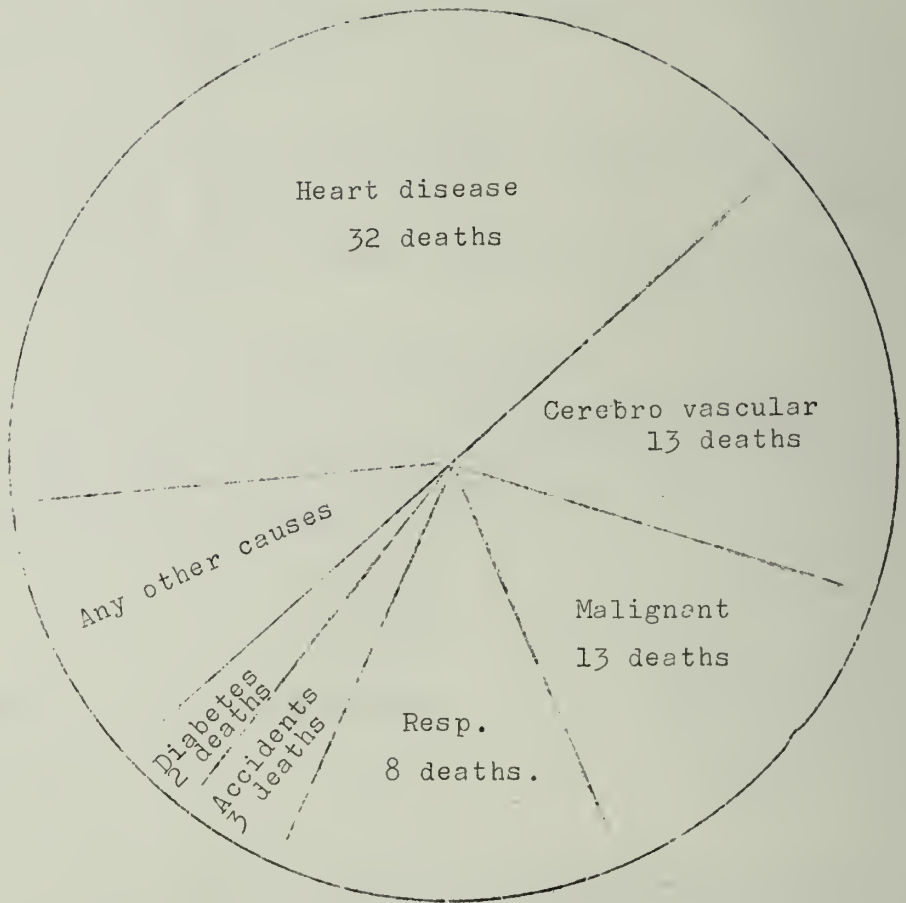
1969

Number of
deaths.

BREAKDOWN OF DEATHS IN AGE GROUPS



1969.



GENERAL EPIDEMIOLOGY

Diphtheria

No case of Diphtheria has been notified in this year.

Diphtheria, Tetanus and Whooping Cough Immunisations

During this year 108 children have been immunised against diphtheria, tetanus and whooping cough. This compares favourably with 1964-65. However, I feel this may not be a true reflection of the total number of children that have been immunised as some of the children go to their own private doctors for immunisation. Hence our records may be incomplete.

Smallpox Vaccinations

During the year of 1969 the total number of persons vaccinated was 38.

Poliomyelitis

No case of poliomyelitis was notified in this year.

Food Poisoning

No case of food poisoning was notified.

Tuberculosis

No case of tuberculosis was notified.

	<u>DEATHS in 1969</u>	<u>Males</u>	<u>Females</u>
Malignant Neoplasm, stomach		1	0
" " intestines		1	1
" " Lung and Bronchus		4	1
" " Uterus			1
" " Breast			3
Leukaemia		1	0
Diabetes		0	1
Other endocrine diseases		0	1
Anaemia		0	1
Mental Disorders		0	1
Other diseases of the nervous system		0	1
Chronic Rheumatic Heart Diseases		0	1
Hypertensive Disease		2	1
Ischaemic Heart Diseases		11	7
Other forms of Heart Disease		2	6
Cerebrovascular Disease		5	8
Other diseases of circulatory system		1	1
Pneumonia		3	2
Bronchitis and emphysema		1	0
Other diseases of respiratory system		2	0
Peptic Ulcer		0	1
Cirrhosis of the Liver		1	0
Nephritis and Nephrosis		0	1
Birth, injury, difficult labour		2	0
Other cases of perinatal mortality		1	0
Motor vehicle accidents		1	0
All other accidents		1	0
All other external causes		1	0
	6.	41	39

SANITARY CONDITIONS OF THE AREA

WATER

There was no acute shortage of water during the year under review but some pressure was experienced in maintaining supply and many members of the public using dip wells and shallow-seated springs in the northern area experienced a shortage during the latter end of the year. 40 samples were taken for bacteriological examination of raw and treated waters and basically all proved satisfactory in standard.

The Council's Consulting Engineers were actively engaged in preparing the Northern Area extension during the year to enable the Council to go to tender early in 1970.

During the year laboratory facilities were available at Newport and these laboratories also performed any investigation required for the control of Infectious Diseases.

There were no stand-pipe supplies from mains water. The village of Skenfrith, however, still has three standpipe services from a shallow spring supply and will remain so until the advent of the Northern Area scheme.

Complaints are still received with regard to Llandogo water supply which is acidic and the advice of the South East Monmouthshire Water Board was taken with regard to treatment with soda ash as the setting up of the Gwent Water Board was imminent.

DRAINAGE AND SEWERAGE.

The Raglan village scheme for extensions of work and mains sewers following extension has worked satisfactorily, otherwise apart from Council house sites the Rural District is basically unsewered. Council's Consulting Engineers have carried out investigations for sewerage Llandogo, Mitchel Troy and the North areas and the Council decided that Llandogo should be placed for immediate consideration of a main drainage scheme.

All new properties built in the area are basically served by septic tank and effluent disposal creates problems in a clay sub-soil. The Council's scheme for emptying septic tanks and cesspits still operates and finds increasing favour from the ratepayers.

The number of visits made by the Public Health Inspector in connection with drainage works was 257.

SMOKE ABATEMENT.

No action was found necessary during the year.

RAG FLOCK & OTHER FILLING MATERIALS ACT 1951.

There are no registered premises in the area.

COMMON LODGING HOUSES.

There are no premises of this type within the rural area.

REFUSE COLLECTION AND PUBLIC CLEANSING.

The total area of collection remains the same as for previous years with a weekly and fortnightly collection and disposal of house refuse through the district. Improvements have been maintained since the Council took over refuse collection by direct labour but extreme difficulty is being experienced in securing new sites for disposal.

Semi-controlled tipping is practised and no complaints were received re nuisance from any of the three tips used by the Council.

In common with the rest of the country the volume of refuse to be collected is growing whilst weight is decreasing and this is involving the Council's vehicle in increased trips to the tip and also increased maintenance work in trying to contain lighter refuse which tends to get blown about.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

The sanitary inspection of the area was undertaken by the Public Health Inspector, Mr. P. A. Thomas. At this juncture I must state I am indebted to the Public Health Inspector for the figures and details of his work contained in this report. The information has proved most useful in the preparation of this report.

Nuisances.

Number of complaints received	130
Number of complaints investigated	130
Number of premises inspected	73
Number of premises revisited	73
Number of Preliminary notices served	21
for (a) Structural defects	11
(b) Sanitary defects	10
Number of statutory notices served	Nil

Result of Notices served

Number completed	11
Number in hand of builder	Nil

Offensive Trades.

There are no offensive trades in the district.

Common Lodging Houses.

There are no common lodging houses in the district.

Licensed Premises

Number of licensed premises	25
Number of visits to such premises	36

In all licensed premises the Licensing Justices were satisfied with amenities provided and several improvements were carried out during the year under review.

Offices, Shops and Railway Premises Act, 1963.

There were no new premises registered during the year and the enforcement of this Act has not been proceeded with due to lack of time available.

Total No. on Register.

Offices	3
Retail Shops	6
Catering establishments open to the public	3
Fuel storage depots	-
Wholesale shops, warehouses	-

Every premises was visited once during the year under review. There is a gradual decrease in establishments employing labour. In the main country businesses are slowly reverting to family only with a gradual decrease in the work necessary to administer this Act.

Factories

Number of factories on register	8
Number of inspections made	8

Caravan Licences

Under the provision of the Caravan Sites and Control of Development Act the position is as follows:

Number of sites licensed permanently	0
Number of sites with limited period	1
Total number of caravans authorised	24

Prevention of Damage by Pests Act 1949

Number of premises inspected as a result of notification or otherwise	112
Number of properties found to be infested	48
Number of premises treated by the Local Authority	26
Number of notices served in respect of treatment	Nil

Pet Animals Act, 1951.

Number of licensed pet shops	Nil
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Animal Boarding Establishment Act, 1963.

Number of Kennels licensed	3
Number of inspections	12

Housing Needs. Applicants for Council Houses.

The demand for council house accommodation still grows in the area. During the year under review houses at Mitchel Troy and Broadstone were completed. 12 houses were started at Cross Ash and 20 at Queen's Hill, Dingestow. Also the first purpose designed contract for grouped accommodation for old people were started at St. Cadoc's Court, Raglan where 23 units and warden accommodation is to be provided. Again, the heaviest demands for housing are for areas adjoining bus routes and our largest age group for accommodation still comes from Old Age Pensioners.

Housing - Private Enterprise.

Total number of houses erected during the year	24
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House Purchase and Housing Act, 1959.

Number of houses approved for Discretionary Grants	8
Number of applications approved for Standard Grants	36

A considerable flood of applications was received with the advent of the higher grant awards.

Inspection and Supervision of Food.

Number of registered dairies in the area	2
Number of distributors licensed	2
Number of producer/distributors from outside rural district	1
Number of producer/distributors in area.	4
Total number distributing in area	9

Meat.

There are two slaughterhouses in the area which are sufficient to meet the demands of the district and neighbourhood. Both premises have been run in accordance with the licences issued by the authority during the year and the co-operation of both owners has readily been available.

The Meat Regulations 1963.

Charges are now being made for meat inspection in accordance with the scale laid down by the Ministry and 100% meat inspection has been maintained during the year.

Meat Inspections.

Number of Inspections	211
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Carcases and Offal inspected and condemned in whole and part.

	Cattle excluding cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep Lambs	Pigs
Number killed	218	Nil	1	1,258	378
Number inspected	218	Nil	1	1,258	378

All diseases except
tuberculosis & cysticerci

Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	1
Carcases of which some part of organ condemned	23	-	-	13	9
% of number inspected affected with disease other than tuberculosis or cysticerci	9%	-	-	9%	1½%

Tuberculosis only

Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases of which some part or organ condemned	-	-	-	-	2
% of number inspected affected with tuberculosis	-	-	-	-	-

No animal was found infected with C. bovis during the year under review.

Cysticerci.

Carcases of which some part or organ condemned	-	-	-	-	-
Carcases submitted to treatment by reffridgeration	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-

Total weight condemned of home killed in lbs. weight for T.B.

	Cattle excluding cows.	Cows.	Calves.	Sheep Lambs.	Pigs.
Whole carcasses	-	-	-	-	-
Part carcasses	-	-	-	-	25
Organs	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	25
<hr/>					
For other diseases					
Whole carcasses	-	-	-	-	-
Part carcasses	-	-	-	-	-
Organs	435	-	-	80	137
	435	-	-	80	137

Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960.

Type of Food Premises.	No. Inspections.	Notices.	No. registered under Sec.16 Food & Drugs Act, 1955.
Cafe/Restaurant	7	29	-
Grocers	16	14	-
Butchers	4	10	4
Sweets	11	21	-
Bakehouses	1	6	-
Icecream producer/retailers	-	-	-
Icecream retailers	33	17	33
School Canteens	12	16	-

Other Foods Condemned

Number of tins condemned - No requests were received during year.
number of lbs. of other foods condemned - 139 lbs. following failure of 2 shop deep-freeze cabinets.

Food Hygiene Regulations.

39 inspections were made to food premises and improvements were secured in all of the premises visited.

Method of Disposal of Condemned Food.

1. The Council require owners of the slaughterhouses to inform them where meat is disposed of. Meat is stained with a green vegetable dye and disposed of to a processing firm.

2. Condemned tins etc. are disposed of by burying in the Council tip.

Poultry Inspection.

There were no poultry processing premises during the year under review in the district but one will be in operation commencing early in 1970 dealing basically with turkeys. Consultations have been carried out in preparation by the owner with the department to secure both humane slaughter and the necessary hygienic conditions required.

APPENDIX. FACTORIES ACTS, 1937 to 1961.

ANNUAL REPORT OF THE MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH IN RESPECT OF THE YEAR 1969 for the MONMOUTH RURAL DISTRICT COUNCIL

Prescribed Particulars on the Administration of the Factories Act, 1937.

Part 1 of the Act.

1. INSPECTIONS for purposes of provisions as to health (including inspections made by Public Health Inspector).

Premises	No. on register.	Inspect- ions.	Written Notices.	Occupiers prosecuted.
1. Factories in which Section 1, 2, 3, 4 & 6 are to be enforced by local authorities	8	8	-	-
2. Factories not included in (1) in which Sec. 7 is enforced by local authority	10	11	-	-
3. Other premises in which Sec. 7 is enforced by Local Authority (excluding out-workers premises)	-	-	-	-
Total	18	19	-	-

2. Cases in which DEFECTS were found.
(If defects are discovered at the premises on two, three or more separate occasions they should be reckoned as two, three or more cases).

	No. of cases in which defects were found.		No. of cases in which prosecutions instituted.	
	Found	Remedied	Referred to H.M. Insp.	by
Want of cleanliness	-	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-
Sanitary conveniences				
(a) Insufficient	-	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	-	-	-	-
(c) Not separate for sexes	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to out-work)	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-

There is one outworker in the district and regular inspections were made on the premises.

Yours faithfully,

M. S. MATHARU,
L.R.C.P & S.I.L.M., D.P.H.
Medical Officer of Health.

